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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/995,239	11/27/2001	Yumman Chan	CA920000043US1	9665

25259 7590 01/30/2006

IBM CORPORATION
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EXAMINER

DAY, HERNG DER

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2128

DATE MAILED: 01/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-11 and 13-15 are presented for examination. Applicants were requested to provide detailed information about the "IBM Recommendation Assistant Framework™" in the Office Action dated July 27, 2005. In the Amendment faxed October 27, 2005, Applicants argued, "the IBM Recommendation Assistant Framework™ is used in the claimed invention only as a communication framework and thus is not necessary for an understanding or an examination of the claimed invention" (page 8, paragraph 3). However, as described in the specification at page 9, lines 12-13, "The preferred embodiment uses the IBM Recommendation Assistant Framework (TM) as a front-end". Also, recited limitation "a communication component for communicating the feedback to the users" has been added in the amended independent claims 1 and 9. Therefore, the detailed information about the "IBM Recommendation Assistant Framework™" appears to be reasonably necessary to the examination of this application and cannot be found. Please note the following Requirement for Information under 37 C.F.R. 1.105.

Requirement for Information - 37 C.F.R. § 1.105

2. Applicants and the assignee of this application are required under 37 CFR 1.105 to provide the following information that the Examiner has determined is reasonably necessary to the examination of this application. The Examiner requires user's manuals and references having a publication date of November 2000 or earlier regarding the "IBM Recommendation Assistant Framework™".

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3. The information is required to identify products and services embodying the disclosed subject matter of “a communication component for communicating the feedback to the users” and identify the properties of similar products and services found in the prior art.
4. The information is also required to enter in the record the art suggested by the Applicants as relevant to this examination in the specification at page 9, lines 12-13, “The preferred embodiment uses the IBM Recommendation Assistant Framework (TM) as a front-end”.
5. For the reason provided, the above-identified user’s manuals and references of the “IBM Recommendation Assistant FrameworkTM” are considered especially relevant to the instant application and appear to be essential to the instant invention and claims, and therefore, the Applicants are required to provide the Office with copies of the technical manuals and references for consideration.
6. The fee and certification requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 are waived for those documents submitted in reply to this requirement. This waiver extends only to those documents within the scope of this requirement under 37 CFR 1.105 that are included in the applicant’s first complete communication responding to this requirement. Any supplemental replies subsequent to the first communication responding to this requirement and any information disclosures beyond the scope of this requirement under 37 CFR 1.105 are subject to the fee and certification requirements of 37 CFR 1.97.
7. The applicant is reminded that the reply to this requirement must be made with candor and good faith under 37 CFR 1.56. Where the applicant does not have or cannot readily obtain an item of required information, a statement that the item is unknown or cannot be readily obtained may be accepted as a complete reply to the requirement for that item.

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8. This requirement is subject to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.134, 1.135 and 1.136 and has a shortened statutory period of 2 months. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Herng-der Day whose telephone number is (571) 272-3777. The Examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 - 17:30.


Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: (571) 272-2100.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Kamini S. Shah can be reached on (571) 272-2279. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Herng-der Day
January 19, 2006

H.D.


KAMINI SHAH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER